

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

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FM USMISSION NATO

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 3479

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: FLANK SECURITY ISSUE

REF: A) VIENNA 0075; B) USNATO 2812; C) USNATO 2798 D) STATE 56461;
E) STATE 35106

1. MISSION UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES WITH USDEL MBFR'S RATIONALE FOR NOT WISHING TO WELD POSSIBLE LANGUAGE ON FLANK SECURITY INTO IMMUTABLE TREATY PROVISION AT THIS TIME. THIS IS NOT OF COUSE BASIS ON WHICH SPC HAS BEEN WORKING; RATHER, INTENTION HAS BEEN TO STAKE OUT IDEAS SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION INTO TREATY LANGUAGE AT SOME LATER TIME, ONCE ESSENCE OF THE BASIC IDEA IS ACCEPTED, IN KEEPING WITH REF D AND PARA 2 OF REF E.

2. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT USDEL MBFR IS PROPOSING REF A STATEMENT FOR INCORPORATION INTO A FORTHCOMING PLENARY STATEMENT, AND NOT AS DRAFT TREATY LANGUAGE. AS SUCH, WE ASSUME THAT USDEL MBFR IS PROPOSING REF A STATEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION IN AHG,
SECRET

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SINCE SPC HAS NOT BEEN, AND IN OUR VIEW SHOULD NOT NOW BECOME ENGAGED IN DRAFTING LANGUAGE FOR PLEARNRY STATEMENTS. PROBLEM HERE IS THAT FLANKS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT BE CONTENT WITH MERELY A PLENARY STATEMENT ON FLANK SECURITY ISSUE. WE WOULD EXPECT

THEM TO ASK IMMEDIATELY WHETHER U.S. IS GIVING UP ON IDEA OF AN ULTIMATE TREATY PROVISION, WHICH HAS BEEN THE PREMISE ON WHICH RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN SPC HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

3. AS WASHINGTON AWARE, SPC IS CONTINUING TO SEEK, AND FLANKS ARE AWAITING U.S. REACTIONS TO CURRENT MODIFICATIONS OF, AN ACCEPTABLE CONCEPT (SEE REFS B AND C) TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FLANK SECURITY CONCERNS. WHILE IT WILL NOT BE INTENDED TO BE SPECIFIC TREATY LANGUAGE ITSELF, THE FORMULATION SPC HOPES TO DEVELOP WILL CONTAIN THE ESSENTIAL THOUGHTS WHICH IN SOME AGREED MANNER WOULD FIGURE SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE MBFR TREATY.

4. IF SPC IS TO COMPLETE THIS WORK, WE THINK ANY PROPOSAL U.S. PUTS FORWARD WILL HAVE TO BE DIRECTED AT A TREATY PROVISION RATHER THAN A GENERAL COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN A PLENARY STATEMENT. WE SHOULD AVOID GIVING TURKS AND GREEKS ANY IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE ABANDONING IDEA OF INCLUDING IN THE TREATY ITSELF A SPECIFIC PROVISION WHICH WILL COVER FLANK SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. OTHERWISE, THIS COULD INDUCE TURKS AND GREEKS TO COME BACK TO PARA 30 MEASURES APPROACH, WHICH THEY COULD THEN CLAIM WAS ONLY SURE WAY TO HAVE MATTER FIRMLY RESOLVED.

5. IF IDEAS WHICH USDEL MBFR HAS PROPOSED IN ITS REDRAFT WERE COINED IN LANGUAGE DESIGNED TO FORM BASIS FOR AN ULTIMATE TREATY PROVISION, MISSION BELIEVES SUCH LANGUAGE MIGHT BE USEFUL AS A RESPONSE IN SPC TO DUTCH AND GREEK FORMULAE, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD EXPECT FLANKS TO AGAIN SEEK TO STRENGTHEN ITS SUBSTANCE.
GOODBY

SECRET

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